

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 5 1. (Original) A server computer for use in a computer network having at least one client computer, the server computer characterized in that the server computer: sends media assets over said computer network to said client computer, the server computer coupled to at least one file system organized into a plurality of asset groups, each asset group comprising at least one media asset, the media asset sharing storage medium
10 bandwidth and storage space on the server computer that is reserved for the asset group to which the media asset belongs.
2. (Original) The server computer of Claim 1, wherein each media asset belongs to only one asset group.
3. (Original) The server computer of Claim 1, wherein the asset group is limited to
15 a maximum number of simultaneous playouts for the media assets contained within the asset group and further comprises an attribute that designates the number of simultaneous playouts.
4. (Original) The server computer of Claim 1, wherein the asset group is limited to a maximum bit rate at which any single media asset belonging to the asset group can
20 be played out, further comprising an attribute which indicates the maximum bit rate.
5. (Original) The server computer of Claim 1, wherein the asset group is associated with a guaranteed possible playouts value that guarantees the number of playouts from each asset belonging to the asset group assuming no other asset is being played out at the same time, further comprising an attribute which indicates the
25 guaranteed possible playouts value.

6. (Original) The server computer of Claim 5, further comprising a default guaranteed possible playouts value.
7. (Original) The server computer of Claim 1, further comprising an asset group policy placement module that places an asset group within the file system.
- 5 8. (Original) The server computer of Claim 7, wherein the asset group policy module distributes the asset group across multiple file systems.
9. (Original) The server computer of Claim 1, further comprising a media asset placement policy module that places media assets within the asset group.
- 10 10. (Original) The server computer of Claim 9, wherein the media asset placement policy module places media assets within asset groups based on said reserved storage medium bandwidth and storage space.
11. (Original) The server computer of Claim 9, wherein the media asset placement policy module restricts the placement domain of the media asset to the asset group distribution of storage space and storage bandwidth.
- 15 12. (Original) The server computer in Claim 1, wherein said media asset includes an asset selected from the set consisting of a audio, text, graphics, image, symbol, video, information item or token, and combinations thereof.
13. (Original) The server computer in Claim 1, wherein said media asset comprises an audio, a video, or an audio-video media asset.
- 20 14. (Original) The server computer in Claim 1, wherein said server computer comprises a mass storage subsystem and said file system organized into said plurality of asset groups is defined in a mass storage subsystem.
15. (Original) The server computer in Claim 14, wherein said mass storage subsystem comprises at least one hard disk drive.

16. (Original) The server computer in Claim 14, wherein said mass storage subsystem comprises a plurality of hard disk drives.

17. (Original) A server computer for use in a client-server computer architecture, the server sending media assets over a computer network to a client computer, the server
5 having a file system organized into a plurality of asset groups, each asset group comprising a plurality of media assets, wherein the plurality of media assets share storage medium bandwidth and storage space on the server computer that is reserved for the asset group to which the plurality of media assets belong, wherein each media asset belongs to only one asset group.

10 18. (Original) The server computer of Claim 17, wherein the asset group is limited to a number of maximum simultaneous playouts for the media assets contained within the asset group and further comprises an attribute that designates the number of simultaneous playouts.

15 19. (Original) The server computer of Claim 17, wherein the asset group is limited to a maximum bit rate at which any single media asset belonging to the asset group can be played out, further comprising an attribute which indicates the maximum bit rate.

20 20. (Original) The server computer of Claim 17, wherein the asset group is associated with a default guaranteed possible playouts value that guarantees the number of playouts from each asset belonging to the asset group assuming no other asset is being played out at the same time, further comprising an attribute which indicates the guaranteed possible playouts value.

21. (Original) The server computer of Claim 17, further comprising a asset group policy placement module that places the asset group within the file system.

25 22. (Original) The server computer of Claim 21, wherein the asset group policy module distributes the asset group across multiple file systems.

23. (Original) The server computer of Claim 17, further comprising a media asset placement policy module that places media assets within the asset group based on said reserved storage medium bandwidth and storage space.

24. (Original) A server computer for use in a client server computer architecture, the
5 server sending media assets over a computer network to a client computer, the server having at least one file system organized into a plurality of asset groups, each asset group comprising a plurality of media assets, wherein the plurality of media assets share storage medium bandwidth and storage space on the server computer that is reserved for the asset group to which the plurality of media assets belong, wherein each
10 media asset belongs to only one asset group, wherein each asset group is limited to a number of maximum simultaneous playouts for the media assets contained within the asset group and further comprises an attribute that designates the number of simultaneous playouts, wherein each asset group is limited to a maximum bit rate at which any single media asset belonging to the asset group can be played out, further
15 comprising an attribute which indicates the maximum bit rate, wherein each asset group is associated with a default guaranteed possible playouts value that guarantees the number of playouts from each asset belonging to the asset group assuming no other asset is being played out at the same time, further comprising an attribute which indicates the guaranteed possible playouts value.

20 25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

25 30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (New) A method for serving media assets by a server computer over a computer network having at least one client computer, the method characterized in that:

5 the server computer sends media assets over said computer network to said client computer; and

 the server computer is coupled to at least one file system organized into at least one asset group, the or each asset group comprising at least one media asset, and the media asset sharing storage medium bandwidth and storage space on the server
10 computer that is reserved for the asset group to which the media asset belongs.

34. (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein each media asset belongs to only one asset group.

15 35. (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein the asset group is limited to a maximum number of simultaneous playouts for the media assets contained within the asset group and further comprises an attribute that designates the number of simultaneous playouts.

 36. (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein the asset group is limited to a maximum
20 bit rate at which any single media asset belonging to the asset group can be played out, further comprising an attribute which indicates the maximum bit rate.

 37. (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein the asset group is associated with a guaranteed possible playouts value that guarantees the number of playouts from each asset belonging to the asset group assuming no other asset is being played out at the
25 same time, further comprising an attribute which indicates the guaranteed possible playouts value.

38. (New) The method of Claim 37, further comprising a default guaranteed possible payouts value.
39. (New) The method of Claim 33, further comprising an asset group policy placement procedure that places an asset group within the file system.
- 5 40. (New) The method of Claim 39, wherein the asset group policy procedure distributes the asset group across multiple file systems.
41. (New) The method of Claim 33, further comprising a media asset placement policy procedure that places media assets within the asset group.
42. (New) The method of Claim 41, wherein the media asset placement policy
10 procedure places media assets within asset groups based on said reserved storage medium bandwidth and storage space.
43. (New) The method of Claim 41, wherein the media asset placement policy procedure restricts the placement domain of the media asset to the asset group distribution of storage space and storage bandwidth.
- 15 44. (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein said media asset includes an asset selected from the set consisting of a audio, text, graphics, image, symbol, video, information item or token, and combinations thereof.
45. (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein said media asset comprises an audio, a video, or an audio-video media asset.
- 20 46. (New) The method of Claim 33, wherein the at least one asset group comprises a plurality of asset groups.
47. (New) The method of claim 33, further comprising:
administering storage space and storage bandwidth of media assets stored on the server computer, the administering including:

- (i) creating the asset group, the asset group providing shared storage space and storage bandwidth on a server computer system for the media assets, the server computer capable of connection to the computer network and communicating with the client computer over the computer network;
- 5 (ii) assigning the asset group to at least one file system;
- (iii) installing at least one media asset in the asset group; and
- (iv) making the media asset available for transmission to the client computer system over the computer network.
- 10 48. (New) The method of claim 33, further comprising:
 calculating a resource quota specifying storage space and storage bandwidth available to the asset group.
49. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein the step of installing comprises
15 associating metadata with a media asset.
50. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein the step of installing comprises copying the media asset into a storage location.
51. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein calculating a resource quota comprises
20 multiplying a value representing a maximum bit rate at which a media asset in the asset group may be played by a value representing a maximum number of assets in the asset group that may be played simultaneously.
52. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein assigning the asset group comprises placing the asset group in a single file system without replicating media assets.
53. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein installing assets comprises evaluating
25 bandwidth for the media asset to determine in select an asset group in the media asset is placed.

54. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein said step of creating an asset group further comprises:

defining a data structure that contains a list of pointers indicating storage locations of media assets stored in the asset group and values of attributes associated

5 with the asset group;

determining a storage bandwidth requirement by calculating the attribute values;

assigning the asset group to a file system; and

storing media assets in accordance with the asset group.